



520.39251X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): YAMAGUCHI, et al.
Serial No.: 09/698,274
Filed: October 30, 2000
For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE, METHOD OF MAKING
THE SAME AND LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY
DEVICE
Group: 2826
Examiner: F. Abraham

#9
Response
4/19/02

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
APR 17 2002
TO 2826 MAIL ROOM
April 17, 2002

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 14, 2002, Applicants respectfully submit the following election and comments, for providing a complete response to this Office Action mailed March 14, 2002.

The Request for Clarification and for Complete Office Action filed March 27, 2002, in connection with the above-identified application, is noted. No response has been received to this Request. In any event, to facilitate proceedings in connection with the above-identified application, the present Response is being submitted, providing a traverse of the Restriction Requirement in the Office Action mailed March 14, 2002, insofar as this Office Action mailed

March 14, 2002, necessitated the Request for Clarification submitted March 27, 2002.

For responding to the Office Action mailed March 14, 2002, Applicants respectfully elect the Group I claims, drawn to a device, which the Examiner contends includes claims 1-7, 9-12, 16-18 and 26. This election is made with traverse, insofar as claims 31-34 have been omitted from the Group I claims, and in light of the confusion in connection with claim 26, which has been listed in both the Group I and Group II claims.

That is, as seen in the Response dated February 25, 2002, and submitted in response to the Office Action mailed January 25, 2002, in the present application, the elected Species of Embodiment I has claims 1-7, 9-12, 16-18, 26 and 31-34 reading thereon.

In the Office Action mailed March 14, 2002, the Examiner omitted claims 31-34. A review of claims 31-34 make it clear that these claims are directed to a thin-film semiconductor integrated circuit device, or a semiconductor device; that is, each of claims 31-34 is directed to a device. Clearly, claims 31-34 should be included with the Group I claims, as set forth in the Office Action mailed March 14, 2002.

Furthermore, note that claim 26 is directed to a method of manufacturing at thin-film semiconductor device. In view thereof, the conclusion by the Examiner that claim 26 is directed to a device, is not understood.

In view of all of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully elect the Group I claims, and respectfully submit that, of the claims directed to the elected Species of Embodiment I, claims 1-7, 9-12, 16-18 and 31-34 read on the Group I claims directed to the device. If all device claims directed to the elected Species, that is, claims 1-7, 9-12, 16-18 and 31-34 are considered in the present application, and claim 26, directed to a method is not considered in the present application, the present election is made without traverse.

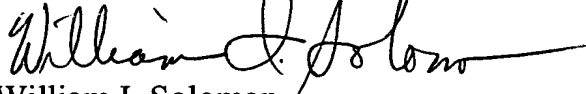
However, based on the Office Action mailed March 14, 2002, which omitted claims 31-34, and included claim 26 in both the Group I and Group II claims, Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement, based on a failure by the Examiner to indicate the Group for claims 31-34; and also traverse the restriction requirement, based upon the designation by the Examiner of claim 26 in both the Group I and Group II claims. For the complete response to the Office Action mailed March 14, 2002, Applicants elect the Group I claims directed to a device; and based on the present written record, make this election with traverse for the reasons as set forth in the foregoing.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under

37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 520.39251X00) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP


William I. Solomon
Registration No. 28,565

1300 North Seventeenth Street
Suite 1800
Arlington, VA 22209
Tel.: 703-312-6600
Fax.: 703-312-6666

WIS/slk